

REMARKS

Claims 1–19 are pending in the present application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102 (Anticipation)

Claims 1–19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,255,736 to *Kaneko*. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A Declaration under Rule 131 is being filed to swear back of *Kaneko*. The Declaration is being filed without signatures, but this response will be promptly supplemented once a signed copy is obtained.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1–19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.


If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *dvenglarik@davismunck.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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